



Growing a better tomorrow, today...



**Cynodon dactylon**

**Princess 77** bermudagrass is the first fine textured hybrid bermudagrass to be available in seeded form. **Princess 77** seed is produced much like hybrid seed corn, but instead of two inbred parent lines, two self-incompatible but cross-fertile parent clones are planted in alternating rows. The specific combining ability of the two elite parent clones is what makes **Princess 77**, an F1 Hybrid, the first hybrid Bermudagrasses for turfgrass quality, leaf texture, color, and density.



**DATA 1999 and 2000**

**Bermudagrass Varieties Were Evaluated for Evapotranspiration Rate for two years (1999 & 2000) by Samuel I. Sifers at the International Sports Turf Institute, Inc. in Bryan Texas**

CULTIVAR	1999	2000	2 yr average
Princess 77	2.2	2.0	2.1
Tifway	2.7	2.4	2.6
Numex Sahara	3.1	3.7	3.4
Sydney	3.6	3.8	3.7
Sultan	3.9	4.1	4.0
Mohawk	4.0	4.1	4.0
LSD	0.25	0.87	0.61

**TYPE:**

Hybrid Seeded Bermudagrass

Experimental Designation – FMC 77

**FEATURES:**

- Outstanding Drought Tolerance
- Increased Shade Tolerance
- Acceptable Salt Tolerance
- High Leaf Density
- Excellent Fall Color Retention
- Medium Fine Leaf Texture
- Better Divot Recovery than Tifway
- Dark Green Color

**BENEFITS:**

- Requires 21% less water than Tifway
- Withstands up to 50% reduced lighting
- Demonstrates acceptable growth with 12,000 ppm salt irrigation water
- Higher overall turf quality than all commercial seeded varieties in U.S. & International Tests
- Fewer repairs needed to mend the high traffic or severely worn areas due to aggressive divot recovery
- Can be interseeded into some existing hybrid Bermudagrasses to repair worn areas.

**RECOMMENDED USE:**

- Golf Courses (Fairways, & Tees)
- Athletic Fields
- Park Settings
- Home Lawns



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**Shade & Traffic Tolerance of Bermudagrass & Zoysiagrass**

Percent green coverage of various bermudagrass & Zoysiagrass cultivars grown in two environments (shade or full sun) without traffic stress

7/11/2008                      8/29/2008                      10/2/2000

Cultivars	Sun	Shade	Sun	Shade	Sun	Shade
Princess 77	99.9 A	99.1 A	97.8	96.8	99.7 A	99.5 A
Patriot	99.7 A	82.2 A	86.7	70.2	95.9 A	54.1 D
Tifsport	100.0 A	96.1 A	99.3	88.2	99.8 A	53.3 D
Tifway	99.9 A	98.6 A	99.1	85.7	97.7 AB	97.3 AB
Average	99.8	93.4	97.7 A	93.7 A	98.7	98.9

**Jon Trappe & Aaron Patton**

University of AR, Cooperative Extension Service  
Dept of Horticulture, Fayetteville, AR

**Doug Karcher & Mike Richardson**

University of AR, Dept of Horticulture, Fayetteville, AR

**Predicted salinity resulting in 50% relative shoot growth (SW50), and percent green leaf canopy area (GLCA) of bermudagrass under salinity stress.**

Cultivar	SW50 dS m <sup>-1</sup>	GLCA %
Flora Tex	40.0	34
Tifsport	35.7	21
Champion	34.7	14
Princess 77	32.2	11
Tifway	32.0	10
Savannah	31.1	11
Sundevil II	30.5	13
Pyramid	28.4	15
Mirage	26.0	10
LSD	3.8	9

Percent green leaf canopy area of plants exposed to 60 dS m<sup>-1</sup> (38,400 ppm)

**K.B. Marcum and M. Pessaraki**

Salinity tolerance & Salt Gland Excretion efficiency of Bermudagrass Turf Cultivars

**OPTIMAL ADAPTATION AREAS:**

Climatic Zones: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 (may not be adaptable to all areas within each climatic zone)



**SEEDING RATES:**

- New Turf Applications – 1-2 lbs/1000 sq ft (0.5-1 kg/1—sq meters)

One pound of unhulled Princess 77 contains 2,200,000 seeds compared to 1,400,000 of unhulled NuMex Sahara, which is 57% more seeds per pound. That is why we recommend a lower seeding rate for Princess 77 compared to other varieties.

**ESTABLISHMENT:**

Princess 77 should be planted when soil temperatures are consistently above 65° F (18° C). For best results, take a soil sample & follow fertility recommendations prior to planting. Care must be taken not to cover the seed with too much soil; no more than ¼ inch (6 mm) covering over the seed is advised. After seeding, soil moisture in the root zone must be maintained for about 1 to 2 weeks, germination may begin within 7 to 10 days.

**MAINTENANCE:**

After the new turf is established, less frequent, deep watering is desirable. Recommended mowing height is 3/16 to 1 in. (5 to 25 mm) with no more than 1/3 of the leaf blade removed per mowing. Full coverage may be attained in 4 to 6 weeks with proper management. Fertilize with ½ to 1 lb/1000 sq ft actual N (0.25 to 0.5 kg/100 sq m) per month of growing season for optimum performance. Fertilization may be reduced by ½ if clippings are returned.

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